AB 54p. #(7)

[redacted]

21 August 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted]

FROM : [redacted]

SUBJECT : Possible Use of Drugs and Hypnosis in [redacted] Operational Case

BACKGROUND

According to [redacted] one of the most important double agents being run in the [redacted] area now is a [redacted] who has been furnishing important and regular information to us. This man has, up to now, been making periodic return visits to his headquarters in [redacted] and then returning to his post outside of [redacted] where we are in contact with him. It now appears that this [redacted] has more or less refused to return to [redacted] claiming that he does not believe he can any longer withstand the confession techniques and the interrogation which always applied to overseas agents when they return to headquarters. [redacted] stated that for obvious reasons we are most desirous in some way to persuade this [redacted] to go back. Because of the situation the possibility of using hypnosis as a means of (a) changing the [redacted] agent's attitude about returning, and (b) giving him ability or the necessary will to withstand interrogation and confession, is being considered.

DISCUSSIONS RELATIVE TO USE OF HYPNOSIS

Several weeks ago [redacted] approached the writer and gave him the details of the case and asked the writer's opinion on the use of hypnosis in the case and how it could be brought about. [redacted] also proposed that the entire matter be discussed with SOURCE #1 for his views in the matter. Thereafter the writer arranged for a meeting with [redacted] and SOURCE #1 and the matter was discussed, with the result that SOURCE #1 felt that the case had merit; that it was experimental; but that since hypnosis and post-hypnotic suggestion could be tested before the actual return operation was mounted, there was nothing to lose and much to gain.

Since the [redacted] involved speaks [redacted] and is not too good in English, the writer proposed that [redacted] and who is familiar with hypnosis, be used in the actual work in the case since [redacted] is capable of speaking [redacted] SOURCE #1 and [redacted] agreed that this seemed a sound idea.

[redacted]

with [redacted] and CIA Employee (Chief, [redacted]) and as a result of these discussions it was proposed that [redacted] who had had an interview with this [redacted] agent in the past, should talk with SOURCE #1 and give him the benefit of his knowledge.

On Friday, 21 August, [redacted] CIA Empl. SOURCE #1 and the writer discussed the case. [redacted] went over his information concerning the [redacted] agent and explained it along with his views to SOURCE #1. After some discussion a general agreement was reached that the case was a good opportunity to make certain tests under controlled conditions; that it should be very clearly noted that it was an experimental situation; and that, if properly controlled, it could be a very important research experiment but that the operations people should realize that it is a complex matter and that success or failure in this case would certainly not mean that the entire consideration of the use of hypnosis in operational cases should be determined by the outcome in this case. It was agreed that SOURCE #1 and [redacted] would be the most suitable team and that [redacted] should be consulted as soon as possible to determine his willingness to participate, since he is in private practice. It was further agreed that although [redacted] CIA Cover and Security Employee [redacted] would be most interested in observing this matter, nevertheless they should not be involved in the work for obvious operational reasons.

CIA Empl. and [redacted] will talk with [redacted] and the writer will also talk with [redacted] The writer will also inform his chain of command since use of hypnosis and drugs on this case calls for a committee meeting with an ultimate decision by Mr. Helms.

[redacted]

[redacted]